

4K96-26

ATKA-AMLIA ISLANDS AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREAS  
SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN, 1996

By

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## **ATKA-AMLIA AREA**

### ***Introduction***

The Alaska Board of Fisheries, during its November 1991 meeting, created an experimental open to entry set gillnet salmon fishery around Atka and Amlia Islands. The Atka-Amlia Islands Management Area is bounded by 172°50' W. long. (Sequam Pass) on the east and 175°23' W. long. (Atka Pass) on the west. In addition to set gillnet gear, fishermen with CFEC Area M purse seine permits may seine for salmon in the Atka-Amlia Islands Area.

### ***Registration Requirements***

Each salmon gear operator must have a valid CFEC fishing permit or interim use permit and must be registered with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). Each vessel operated must be registered with ADF&G. Vessels acting as salmon tenders, fish buyers, and processors are also required to register prior to operating in the Atka-Amlia area. Registration can be completed by contacting an ADF&G Management Biologist at Dutch Harbor, Sand Point, or other places designated by the Department at least 48 hours prior to commercial fishing for salmon in the Atka-Amlia Islands Area. The addresses and phone numbers for the Cold Bay, Dutch Harbor, and Sand Point ADF&G offices are as follows:

**ADF&G**  
**P.O. Box 50**  
**Cold Bay AK 99571**  
**Phone: 532-2419**  
**Fax: 532-2470**

**ADF&G**  
**P.O. Box 920587**  
**Dutch Harbor AK 99692**  
**Phone: 581-1219**  
**Fax: 581-1572**

**ADF&G**  
**P.O. Box 129**  
**Sand Point AK 99661**  
**Phone: 383-2066**  
**Fax: 383-2606**

### ***1996 Outlook***

The excellent pink salmon escapements in 1994 should produce a moderate to very strong pink salmon run during 1996.

### ***Fishing Periods***

The fishing season is from August 1 through August 31. Fishing periods will be from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. during Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as listed in the regulation book. All waters within 500 yards of the mouth of all salmon streams are closed to commercial salmon fishing.

Fishing time and closed waters may be adjusted inseason based on catch and escapement information.

## *Gear*

Purse seine gear specifications are the same in the Atka-Amliia Areas as listed in the 1995-97 commercial salmon fishing regulation book for the Aleutian Islands Area.

Set gillnet specifications are as follows:

1. Each CFEC permit holder may operate no more than one set gillnet of which the length cannot exceed 100 fathoms (not including the lead, see 5. below).
2. Set gillnets must be operated in substantially a straight line except that no more than 25 fathoms of the offshore end of a set gillnet may be used as a hook. A hook may be used in any configuration.
3. The mesh size of set gillnets shall not exceed five inches.
4. The maximum depth of set gillnets shall not exceed 90 meshes.
5. Twenty-five fathoms of seine webbing may be used as a lead, and may be attached only to the shoreward end of a set gillnet; the shoreward end of the lead or gillnet must be attached to the beach above high tide.
6. During hours of darkness, each set gillnet must be marked with at least one red light on the seaward end of the net.
7. No vessel used for set gillnet fishing may exceed 29 feet in overall length.
8. Salmon caught for commercial fishing bait must be taken following the specifications listed above. Salmon taken under subsistence regulations cannot be used to fish other commercial species.

Unless there is an Alaska Department of Fish and Game representative at Atka, all catch reports should be phoned or faxed to the ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor during the morning following a fishing period. The catch report should list the number of fish and pounds purchased by species and the number of fishermen making deliveries.

**ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA**  
**(Excluding Atka/Amlia Island Area)**

The Aleutian Islands Area includes all waters of Alaska and Aleutian Islands west of Cape Sarichef Light and west of a line extending from Scotch Cap through the easternmost tip of Ugamak Island to 172°50. long (Sequam Pass) and all waters of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands west of 175°23' W. long (Atka Pass).

Seining is the only legal method to harvest salmon in the Aleutian Islands Area.

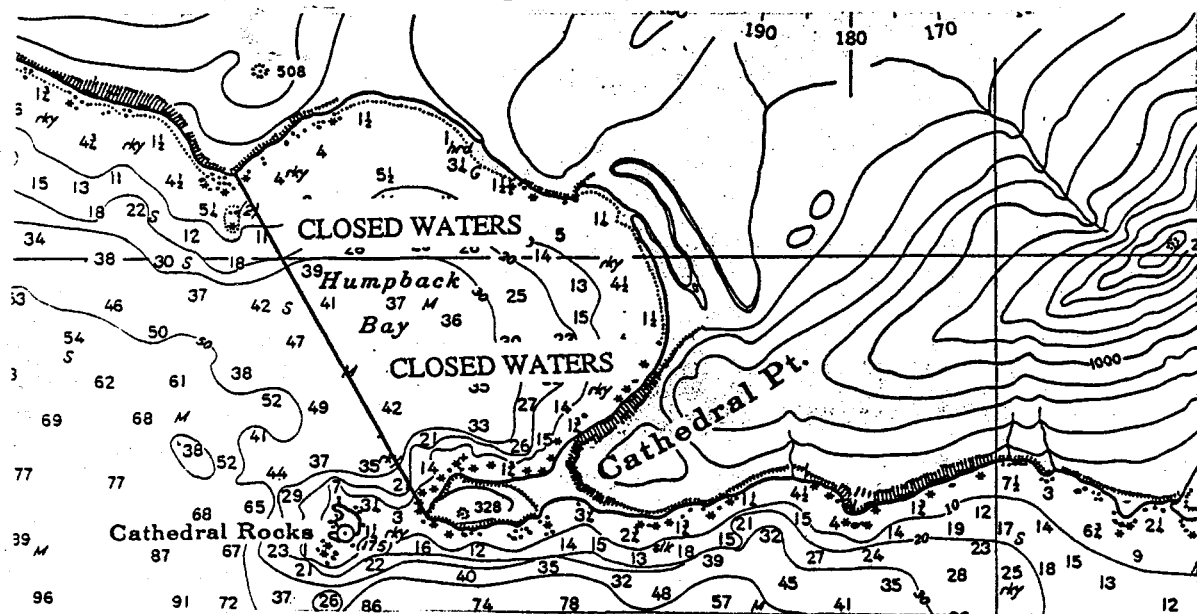
The Aleutian Islands Area pink salmon harvest is projected to be about 1,000,000 fish if adequate markets are available.

There are small local sockeye runs in the Unalaska district. Due to the remoteness and run size, the harvest, if any, is anticipated to be small.

The Kashega Bay Section (Spray Cape to Konets Head) only, will be open from 6:00 a.m. Monday to 6:00 p.m. Friday each week from June 1 through July 18 to allow fishermen the opportunity to fish local sockeye.

The entire Aleutian Islands Area will open to commercial salmon fishing from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday July 10 until 6:00 p.m. Friday July 12 and from 6:00 a.m. Monday July 15 until 12:00 midnight Thursday July 18 as specified in the regulation book. Fishing periods after July 18 will be established by emergency order.

The closed waters (under 5 AAC 12.350) will be expanded to include all of Humpback Bay (within Makushin Bay) enclosed by a line from the western tip of Cathedral Point to 53°45.23' N. lat, 167°58.37' W. long. until a substantial number of pink salmon are in the Humpback Bay streams. This closure protects the major production area of Makushin Bay and should prevent a major loss of fishing time outside of Humpback Bay.



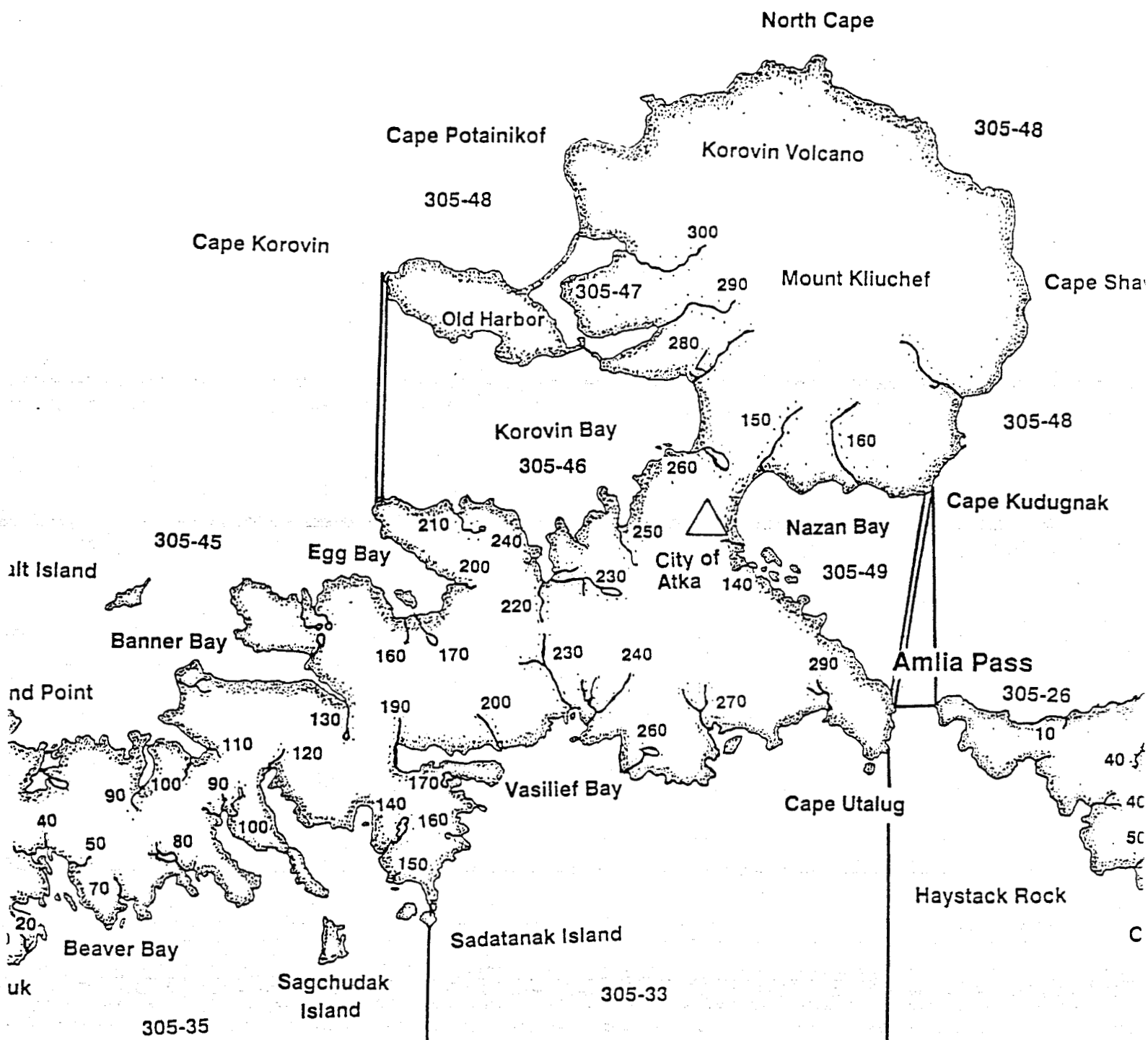


Figure 1. Korovin Bay, Old Harbor, and Nazan Bay fishing areas.

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If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203 or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

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